Nippon Times

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70 ENEMY PLANES APPEAR OVER TOKYO; JAPANESE DESTROY 3

Came From Mariana Group in Several Formations, Says Imperial Headquarters

Some 70 American planes, coming from the Mariana Group in several echelon formations appeared over the vicinity of Tokyo at a high altitude for about two hours shortly after noon on November 24, it was announced by the Imperial Headquarters at 5 p.m. on Friday.

The communique further revealed that the results confirmed up to the present included three planes shot down and the damage on the Japanese side was negligible.

The communique follows:

IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS' COMMUNIQUE
5 p.m., November 24

"For about two hours shortly after noon on November 24, some 70 enemy planes in several echelon formations coming from the Mariana Group penetrated the district in the neighborhood of Tokyo from a high altitude.

"Damage on our side was slight and the war results which have been confirmed up to the present include three planes shot down."

Hop From Mariana

Hopping from a base in the Marianas Group, about 70 U.S. planes divided into several echelon formations forced their way into the skies over Tokyo and its neighboring district from a high altitude, namely 9,000 or 10,000 meters, and [illegible] shortly after noon on Friday.

A part of the enemy formations each of which was comprised of six or 10 planes zoomed over Tokyo Metropolis in the course of their raid and blind bombed the suburbs of Tokyo.

Small fires broke out at several places but were quickly extinguished by members of the Japanese air defense corps and civilian anti-air raid units. The results known up to the present included three planes shot down but further investigations are now being conducted.

For fear of Japanese counter-attacks, the enemy raiders appeared to have carried only a small amount of bombs. To boast the Tokyo raid, a San Francisco radio at 1:30 p.m. reported that the American air units directed a large-scale raid against Tokyo and the factories in that city.

Judging from the Friday raid, enemy air bases in the Mariana area are believed to have been consolidated and a considerable number of aircraft massed there.

Truk Raider Downed

By Arrangement With the Asahi

CENTRAL PACIFIC BASE, November 24.—Truk Island was attacked by 43 B-24 bombers and P-38 fighters on the morning of November 22 and the Japanese Units shot down one of the enemy raiders.

In the afternoon of the same day Pagan Island of the Mariana Group was raided by 15 P-47's and P-36's. Japanese Units on Mille Island of the Marshall Group shot down one of the 20-odd F4U's and PBY's which attacked the island early the same morning.

B-24's Attack Celebes

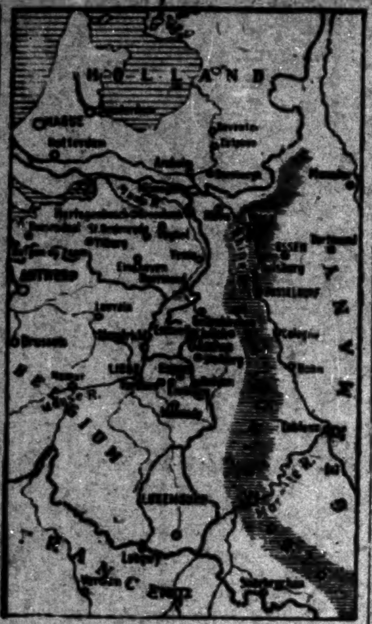
Special to the Nippon Times

SOUTHWESTERN PACIFIC BASE, November 24.—Five B-24's attacked Celebes Island on the night of November 22. Twenty-seven B-24's and P-38's raided Pomala, on the coast of Bone Bay, Celebes Island, the same morning.

Italian Forces Disband

Domei

BERLIN, November 21.—Disbandment of Italy's regular army, navy and air force was officially announced from Marshal Rudolfo Graziani's national defense headquarters today. According to the announcement all officers and non-commissioned officers will be invited to say whether they wish to continue as volunteers or quit service. It was recalled that the Fascist army included elements which proved politically unreliable and that last August about half of the officers and non-commissioned officers had to be ejected.



MEDDLING IN IRAN AFFAIRS BY SOVIETS CRITICIZED

Moscow Has No Right to Force Decisions Against Nation's Wishes, Says Saed

Domei

STOCKHOLM, November 23.—The anger and exasperation felt by Mohammed Saed, former Iran Premier, over the Soviet pressure on his Government prior to his resignation was revealed by a Reuter's diplomatic correspondent who obtained his information from the Iranian Embassy in London.

The correspondent said that the night before Mohammed Saed resigned, he wired the Iranian Ambassador in London bitterly criticizing the Soviets' high-handed manner in meddling in the internal affairs of Iran.

According to information received from the Iranian Embassy in London, Saed is said to have declared: "The Iranian Government is entitled to make any decision which it considers necessary. I repeatedly [illegible] the Soviet Government that foreign countries had no right to force decisions contrary to the interests of Iran.

"The Soviet Government pointed out that public opinion in Iran urged the granting of oil concessions to the Soviets as published in the Teheran press. That is totally untrue. I deeply regret the Soviet attitude and am disappointed over their belief that they are justified in disturbing relations with Iran at a time when it is facing a critical stage of the war."

Crisis in Iran Continues

Domei

LISBON, November 22.—Political crisis continues in Iran where new Premier Bayat has still to form a Government and formulate a policy acceptable to the majority in Parliament, Randall Neale, Reuter diplomatic correspondent, reported today.

He recalled that the previous Premier Mohammed Saed had resigned not through failure of administration, but rather in view of the Soviet demand for immediate oil concessions and observed that although opinions in Teheran seem to expect much from the new Government when it is formed, there is nothing to suggest a change in the Iran peoples' opposition to granting oil concessions until after the war.

The new Premier, the correspondent added, had been a member of Parliament for a long time, but had not clarified his attitude toward any particular party and for which he had been attacked frequently.

SET ON GAINING FREEDOM

Arab States Intensify Move to Crush European Rule

Domei

BERNE, November 21.—The Arabian world seems determined to achieve complete independence, and the friction existing between the individual Arabian states is gradually ceasing, according to a U.P. dispatch from Cairo.

Continuing the same report said that a Pan-Arabian government which will unite in the Arabian federation no less than 40,000,000 people, all speaking the same language, is to replace European rule over the different Arabian peoples even if this, in part, is only an indirect rule.

The Arabian press intends to launch a large-scale campaign in order to win public opinion for the union of all Arabs. The Arabians feel strong and it may therefore be expected that they will bring weight to bear on the proceedings of the coming peace conference, the report added.

YANKS START NEW DRIVE IN GEILENKIRCHEN AREA

German Artillery of Unprecedented Violence Reported; Eschweiler Evacuated

Domei

BERLIN, November 23.—After a comparative lull of 24 hours, General William Simpson's American 9th Army forces opened a new major attack on both sides of Geilenkirchen, north of Aachen, along a 20-kilometer front yesterday after several hours drumfire.

The main attacking force stormed against the German bridgehead at Julich on the west bank of the Roer while another group operated on the banks of the Wurm which flows through Geilenkirchen.

First German reports from the sector said that German artillery fire was of unprecedented violence and terrific artillery duels shook the rain-drenched battlefield where during the first week of the third battle of Aachen over 320 American tanks were destroyed and over 20,000 troops were killed.

Eschweiler Evacuated

By today, the new attack extended to the left wing of General Courtney Hodge's American 1st army group, but no decisive success was achieved anywhere. As a result of the planned evacuation of Eschweiler, the German command gained sufficient reserves to ward off all American frontal attacks.

Down in the Alsace district and on both sides of the high Vosges mountains, American, De Gaullist and German tanks and motorized formations are engaged in mobile warfare all over the sector extending down to the Swiss border.

The bulk of the 1st De Gaullist army divisions which had penetrated into Alsace turned about face when the Germans cut through their supply lines at the Swiss border 24 hours ago and are now trying to gain crossings over the Rhine-Rhone canal towards the [illegible]. The attempt to open the Belfort gap from the rear is obviously regarded by General De Tassigny as the only chance to escape complete encirclement.

Other French forces tried yesterday to remove the German wedge driven from the Rhine-Rhone canal towards the Swiss frontier, but despite lively barrage and tank attacks, the Germans maintained all their bolt positions.

Strong French forces encircled the citadel of Belfort, but German counter-attacks yesterday relieved the isolated garrison and the old fort was once again included in the main German fighting line. All French attempts to reopen the road at Delle collapsed.

During the past 48 hours, 60 tanks of the 1st and 5th French tank division were destroyed by the Germans in upper Alsace and since the French forces broke into the district more than 100 tanks have been knocked out.

Enemy Reaches Saverne

On the northern fringes of the Vosges, parts of the American 7th army reached the area of Saverne while to the south of the town, fighting is in progress in the big Abreshville forests. Other American armored units pressed forward along the pass roads in the central Vosges.

In Holland, the British 2nd army opened a new attack against the German Meuse bridgehead at Roermond, but the Germans had already withdrawn to the eastern bank of the river before the British attack had commenced.

Fighting in Hungary

Domei

BERLIN, November 23.—Soviet pressure, though weaker than the preceding day, was again directed mainly in the Hatvan-Gyongyo section where German bold formations inflicted heavy losses on the attackers while in the rest of the Hungarian fighting attacks and counter-attacks were evenly matched.

Red Army forces renewed their attempts to break through southeast of Ungvar but again collapsed with considerable losses.

On the roads through Dukla Pass, fighting was restricted to local Soviet attacks which were repelled. The attacks were carried out with less vigor, but German defensive strength remained unbroken as the German salient there was withdrawn.

In southern Sworbe Peninsula, the German garrison continued to defend itself in heavy fighting against concentric Soviet attacks.

Chungking Said Unfit to Occupy High Seat In the Council of 'Great' Anti-Axis Powers

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, November 23.—Discounting the status of the Chungking regime, Ferdinand Touhy in his article entitled "From China to Paris" which appeared in the Sphere, London, last month, claims that the regime is not fit to take its place together with Britain, the Soviet Union, and America in a council that would decide the destinies of the European countries, says a London dispatch. Touhy's article follows:

"According to Senator Albert Chandler, Republican of Kentucky, Prime Minister Churchill told him that he did not see why China should be admitted as one of the Big Four in her present state. There must be many people in this country who hope that the Prime Minister did say so, and this without the slightest disrespect in attitude or lack of appreciation toward the Chinese.

"Churchill is popularly supposed to be too ready to make concessions so as to keep the Americans in humor. Yet the time has come—it has been gradually coming for a long time—when the British Government will have to weigh more closely the benefits versus the risk of yielding to America's desires. Once before the Americans undid the good they had done in Europe by running away in accordance with their isolationist policy. This time, they will undo the good they are doing by excessive intervention in Europe.

Sense of Unreality

"The latest example was at Dumbarton Oaks. China's presence as a full-grown member of the world's super four, in a situation in which it would have a say in the matters concerning the destinies of European lands, filled me with a sense of unreality, and now we know who pushed the Chinese to a stratospheric level. It reminds me of how the late League Council used to be 'packed' by great Powers, by 'permanents' wishing their own puppets beside them for reasons far [illegible] international co-operation.

"Unreality is stretched further when one reads what China did at Dumbarton Oaks. The Chinese government favored a revival of the old League of Nations with "teeth" rather than a new method of approach to world problems, and the proposals of Wellington Koo, Chungking Ambassador to London, do not seem to have favor. Meanwhile, one country was kept out of the scheme, and that was France. It is one thing to wish and plan for China's emergence as the United Nations' principal pillar in the Far East after the herding of the Japanese back into their own island but it is quite a different matter to anticipate and act as if China were already that pillar.

"But, let the Americans themselves speak about China. 'Let's be brutally frank,' says John Gunther. 'China now is not a nation, it is a vast sprawling amalgam that aspires to true nationhood. Control is divided between the central government of Chiang Kai-shek and the Chinese Communists who have set up their own quasi-republic in the great Chinese territory in the northwest.' This refers to the 18th Army Group which now seems to be further than ever from trusting Chungking's offers, and inevitably relies on Russia, not without good reason, to back it up.

"The state of China is as bluntly put by the U.S. Foreign Policy Association which stated that the weakness of the Central Chinese armies can be mainly traced not to the inadequacy of American aid but to 'such internal conditions as the mishandling of troops, political differences among the generals, widespread discontent with the methods of conscription, popular dissatisfaction with the corrupt behavior of many military leaders and Chungking's failure to use all its machinery for war production.'

Forced to Serve

"Moreover, the Association goes on to quote a recent statement that 'only one out of every 20 Chinese conscripts reaches the front line' and notes that 'men are picked at random in the streets by armed officials and pressed into the army.'

"There is not a semblance of anything democratic about the Chungking regime which in fact has been accused of Fascism. The mildest summing up is that officially, China is still in the second stage of Sun Yat-sen's program. Whether it was part of this program to instigate inflation, as Chungking did earlier in the war, and which is now completely out of hand spreading untold misery, can be answered only in one way.

"Is it sense to recognize such a regime at the topmost level, to have it sit in with just three others in an attempted refashioning of the world, while all the rest are kept outside and told to be good and see what is coming to them? Is it kindness toward the Chinese? That they have resisted the Japanese, thereby gaining for them as far as the Allies are concerned, the status of senior nation in the Far East, is a certainty, but what is the use of saying that China has already qualified to vote on par with Great Britain, Russia, and the United States?

"There must be some ulterior motive in pushing China onto a high seat before she can muster sufficient nationhood to climb that chair, and I think that the cat has been let out of the bag by the U.S. Department of Commerce. 'Four hundred and fifty million Chinese need everything,' it is claimed, and the Department of Commerce is also enumerating the endless exports which the Americans will be able to make, culminating in 'amazing numbers of motor-cars and lorries that will and must be provided to fill even the minimum needs of Free China.' There is going to be the most unseemly scramble for markets ever known after this war, and it will more than anything else hold the seed of a future war.

"I am not showing up the Americans in particular. It is apparently recognized as strictly human nowadays to force everything you can on other people and the Americans see 450,000,000 Chinese tummies waiting to be refreshed.

Ignored the 'Allies'

"But let's be quite clear as to why this current, tragic China is shoved forward as a member of the first, all puissant, so exclusive world council; not that I have heard the slightest thanks for promoting China who indeed ignored all mention of the Allies in his China Day address. Contrast this with the American treatment of France!

"On this delicate matter it is just as well to quote Americans who [illegible] Lippmann, President Roosevelt must be held mainly responsible for the denial of that which all French people long for, and this despite the President's often expressed deep and abiding affection for all things French.

"Lippmann wrote, First, Roosevelt professed not to know whether the French people would accept the Provisional Government presided by General Charles de Gaulle. Then, when the French people accepted this government, Roosevelt, contrary to the State and War Departments, still continued to withhold recognition.

"The French intend to persevere quand meme and they have friends everywhere. One feels certain that Prime Minister Churchill has stood up for France—remember how he deliberately stood up for France as the fourth great Power some time ago—and the press will make things easier for him by making it as clear as possible to the French people that here and now Britain frees herself from the policy of keeping France one minute longer from the major counsels.

REVERSE LEND-LEASE RISES

Value From British Commonwealth Increases Three Times

Domei

LISBON, November 22.—President Roosevelt's 17th report to Congress on the Lend-Lease system made today stated that the British Commonwealth's reverse Lend-Lease articles in the year ending June 30 reached a total of $3,348,000,000 or almost three times the total of the previous year when the figure was $1,175,000,000, according to a Washington dispatch.

The share supplied by India, Australia and New Zealand, the report added, in reverse Lend-Lease goods up to June 30 valued $911,065,000. Of this total $350,062,000 was the value of aid furnished by these countries between January and June of this year.

Egyptian Seeks U.S. Aid

Domei

BERLIN, November 23.—The Egyptian industrial king, Achmed Irbud Pasha, is en route to the United States in order to secure American help for the erection of a power plant at Assuan, Egypt, reports Fokets Dagbladet. This trip, the paper points out, is being viewed with very unfriendly feeling in London for the British are aware that the United States is intentionally doing everything to win the Egyptian market for its own interests.

NIPPON FORCES OCCUPY PINYANG IN SOUTH CHINA

Nanning's Defense System Now Completely Paralyzed in 3-Day Operations

Domei

SOUTH CHINA FRONT BASE, November 24.—Starting a new movement on November 19, picked troops of the Japanese Forces in South China advanced 80 kilometers in three days, storming into Pinyang, a keypoint 70 kilometers northeast of Nanning, at 12:30 p.m. on November 21. Pinyang is a vital stronghold for the defense of the Nanning area and its fall means the complete paralyzation of Nanning's defense system. The Japanese had temporarily occupied the town in the course of the great Pinyang operations in November, 1940.

Pinyang is located in the Pinyang Basin, northeast of Nanning, and its population is 10,000. Prior to the beginning of the present operation, the city had been garrisoned by the mainstay of the 135th Division and a part of 88th Division of the Chungking 16th Group Army. When the Japanese started their drive toward Liuchow, these enemy garrisons were shifted to the northeastern area and, instead, the headquarters of the 35th Group Army of the Seventh War Zone which took flight from Canton was established there. The latest Japanese occupation outstripped the scheduled arrival of the enemy remnants in Pinyang.

Enemy in Confusion

By TSUTSUMI
Of the Military Press Corps

CONTINENTAL BASE, November 23.—Enemy forces in Kwangsi area are fleeing in great confusion toward Kweichow Province by the Hunan-Kweichow railway. A Japanese scouting plane discovered on November 21 that the railway line is full of trains and the road along it is also congested with motor cars. It was also seen that in the neighborhood of Chinchengkiang, 80 kilometers northwest of Isham, one place was in flames while at another about 10 kilometers west of Chinchengkiang there is a great [illegible].

It is believed that the enemy had set fire to their supplies, fearing that they might fall into the hands of the Japanese forces.

Suichwan Bombed

By a Member of the Military Press Corps

CONTINENTAL BASE, November 23.—Japanese Bomber Units in China last night bombed enemy airfields in Suichwan and Kanchow, blasting 13 enemy planes in Suichwan and causing fires at three places in Kanchow.

At the Suichwan airfield, the Japanese raiders set ablaze one large plane, two small ones and another of unidentified category and damaged another large plane, four small aircraft and four others of unidentified type. At Kanchow, they caused fires to break out at three places of which one was most probably an aircraft.

Another bomber formation surprise-raided the Laohokow airfield, Hupei Province, but due to mist, results of the attack were not confirmed. All the Japanese raiders returned safely.

Anking Raider Downed

By a Member of the Military Press Corps

CONTINENTAL BASE, November 23.—Japanese anti-aircraft artillery shot down one and damaged another of the several P-51 fighters of the China-based American air force which attacked Anking on the afternoon of November 21.

'BIG 3' PARLEY POSTPONED

London Admits Conference Not Taking Place in 1944

Domei

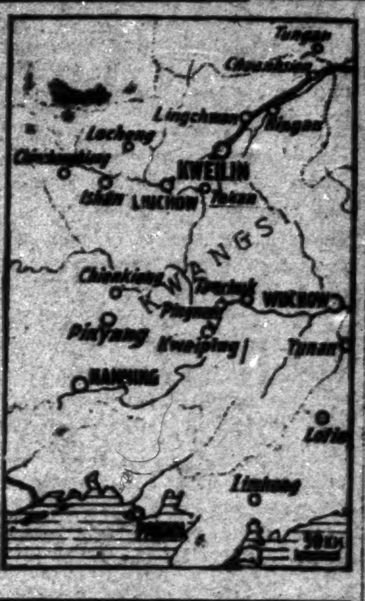
ZURICH, November 23.—The British Government also admitted today that the meeting among Prime Minister Winston Churchill, President Franklin Roosevelt and Premier Josef Stalin will not take place this year, the London correspondent of Neue Zuercher Zeitung reported from London.

It is said that technical difficulties obstructing the meeting of these three leaders around one conference table had proved unsurmountable. He declared that the conference is not expected now to take place before late winter or early spring unless military and political quick decisions.

Chungking Envoys Named

Domei

CANTON, November 24.—The Executive Yuan of the Chungking regime at a meeting on November 21 appointed Chien Tai as Ambassador to France and Hsu Mow as Ambassador to Turkey.



PACIFIC WAR DIFFICULTIES STRESSED BY ROOSEVELT

Must Send More Arms, Declares Bard in Bond Sales Campaign Speech

Domei

LISBON, November 23.—The difficulty of the Pacific war was stressed by President Roosevelt as well as army and navy authorities in their appeal to the American public for intensifying war efforts, in opening the campaign for the sixth issue of the War Bond, according to a New York report.

"For winning victory in the Pacific War, the United States must give all possible resources to the war, and at present the United States is feeling the shortage of fighting ships and munitions for heavy artillery pieces," said Undersecretary of Navy Ralph Bard.

Also, Admiral Joseph E. King, Commander-in-Chief of the United States Fleet, said as follows:

"The present war situation is progressing more favorably than was expected last year, generally speaking. But even with the ending of the European war, there still remains a difficult and long war to [illegible] expedition of the American forces, there has arisen a new problem in war supply production. For instance, the construction of fighting ships and transports is not enough to meet the needs of the military forces. Rocket guns are also lacking. The Navy's production plan concerning this arm was expanded from $8,000,000 in the first quarter of the present year to $106,000,000 in the third quarter. Then, high explosives necessary for the attack on coast defense equipments are insufficient. Next year, the Navy will probably require about 50 per cent more of this kind of explosives than at present.

"Other supplies which are not sufficiently produced are materials for repairing warships at the front, certain types of airplanes and others. Unless these shortage are rectified, the stragetic plan of the United States forces in the Pacific will have to be delayed."

Lieutenant-General Alexander Vandergrift, Commandant of the United States Marine Corps, also had the following to say:

"As the United States forces approach the mainland of Japan, there will come a decisive battle with the land forces of Japan, which will be a very difficult one. Compared with the European war, the supply operation in the Pacific is extremely difficult. For instance, the expense of transportation in the Pacific will be one quarter higher than in the European war area, while the task units engaged in the operation in the Pacific will require twice as much transports as in Europe. The Pacific war will need more land and sea tanks, aircraft carriers, supply ships, gasoline and other supplies than the European invasion campaign."

Boasts of Bigger Navy

Domei

LISBON, November 22.—James Forrestal, United States Secretary of the Navy, boasted of an increased American navy in the course of a speech he made today at Minneapolis, Minnesota, in launching the drive to boost the sale of the sixth issue of United States war bonds.

Forrestal said to the following effect:

"Vessels of various types, totaling 71,000, have been added to the United States fleet since July 1, 1940, when a large armament extension was embarked upon by the United States.

"The naval appropriations which have been approved by Congress during this period amounted to a total of $118,000,000,000. The largest item of expenditures was $28,500,000,000 for the construction of vessels.

"By these expenditures the strength of the American fleet had been increased at the end of last month to five and a half times the strength of the fleet as it stood on July 1, 1940.

"The second largest item was for the extension of the air arm of the navy.

"The number of planes of which the navy took delivery from the time mentioned was 62,000. This addition to the naval air force brought up its strength by 20 times.

"Expenditures for arms amounted to $5,800,000,000. This does not include the cost of equipping new vessels.

"In this way America has become the greatest naval power in the world.

"For the period of three years which have elapsed since hostilities broke out the American navy has employed 61,000 vessels in the transport of troops and munitions in the Pacific and the Atlantic.

"During the same period America has landed attack units with a combined strength of 1,300,000 men.

"The defeat of Germany is bound to come about.

"But it may prove a harder task than we think it to be to smash the fighting power of Japan.

"America needs to see that it shall not repeat the blunder it committed after the last great war was over."

NIPPON ACES BLAST 4 ENEMY WARSHIPS, INCLUDING 1 CARRIER

Imperial Headquarters Announces 3-Day Attack on Convoy East of Luzon Island

Units of the Imperial Japanese Air Force blasted four American warships including an aircraft carrier in a three-day attack on an enemy convoy and escort fleet in the waters east of Mindanao Island on November 21-23, it was announced by the Imperial Headquarters at 5 p.m. on Friday.

The same communique announced that the damaging of three enemy warships of unidentified category was added to the previously announced war results obtained by Japanese Air Units in the attack against an enemy task force in the sea area east of Luzon Island on November 19.

The communique follows:

IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS' COMMUNIQUE
5 p.m., November 24

"1. Japanese Air Force attacked an enemy convoy and escort fleet in the waters east of Mindanao Island from the 21st to the 23rd of November and damaged one aircraft carrier and sunk two transports and one cruiser or destroyer.

Five of our airplanes have not yet returned.

"2. Damaging of three warships of unidentified category is hereby added to the previously announced war results, achieved by the Japanese Air Force that attacked the enemy task force in the waters east of Luzon Island on November 19."

Enemy Practically Isolated

Domei

[illegible] supply routes severed by [illegible] operations of the Japanese Forces in the northern part of Leyte, a part of the U.S. 24th Infantry Division is barely being supplied by materials dropped from planes by parachutes, according to reports from the U.S. front lines in Leyte. This group has practically been isolated.

Deck-Plane Raids Decrease

Domei

MANILA, November 23.—American planes raiding the Philippines during the one-month period from October 15 to November 17 totaled 8,959 of which 3,283 were land-based aircraft and the rest were deck planes.

Of this total, 954 land-based planes and 173 deck-planes raided the Mindanao area, 1,673 land-based planes and 173 deck-planes, the Visaya sector and 656 land-based planes and 4,119 carrier-based planes attacked the Luzon area.

A feature which has become particularly manifest of late in enemy air raid tactics is the increase in the number of land-based planes while deck-plane raids have become rather sporadic.

Since the Japanese Special Attack Air Corps started action, the enemy has shown extreme caution and has added increasing numbers of new-type F6F fighters to his formations which used to be comprised exclusively of Grumman F4F's.

ARMISTICE ACCEPTANCE BY FINNS SAID MISTAKE

Tanner Says in Interview Better Terms Could Have Been Reached Through Waiting

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, November 22.—Wide publicity was given by the press in both North and South America and Australia to a statement made by Vaino Alfred Tanner, former Finnish Finance Minister, in the course of an interview he gave to an American journalist, that he still believed that Finland made a mistake when it accepted the Soviet armistice terms and that better conditions could have been reached through waiting.

Commenting on this, the Dagens Nyheter, in its issue of November 11, writes under the heading "Tanner's Opinion before U.S. Public" as follows:

"In an article about Finland by the Chicago Daily News published in a great number of papers in America, Canada, South America and Australia, Tanner's position is taken up on the foundation of the declarations made to an American journalist. It is said among other things: Tanner still believes that Finland made a great mistake when it accepted the Soviet Armistice terms and he feels that better conditions could have been reached through waitings.

"In a private interview given to American papers, he said: 'Soviet Russia, after the war, will have no interest in what the democracies say or do.' Maintaining his opinion that Germany would not be conquered for a long time, he came back to the characteristic Finnish conservative attitude that Finland should have been in a better situation if the surrender to the Soviet Government had been postponed."

Again taking up the subject of Tanner's interview in its issue of November 13, the Dagens Nyheter further writes as follows:

"Because of a contradiction from Tanner distributed to the Swedish press regarding an interview which has been distributed to a number of American papers through the Chicago Daily News, this paper got in touch with the correspondent in question. He declares that he was received by Tanner on October 11.

"Tanner declared in answer to a question that armistice was impossible in March as the people were not ripe for peace and there was a danger of civil war. Sweden does [illegible] different reasons it was too early. The American position on the continent is getting stronger which might give Finland better possibilities, and the time between armistice and peace should be shorter, which would have given Russia less possibilities to interfere with Finland's domestic affairs. We have the experience of Russian interference in Finland after the winter war of 1940. The third reason is that Germany is not yet conquered."

"The correspondent asked if Finland did not feel protected because of an intimate cooperation between Soviet Russia and the Allies. Tanner answered: 'The Russians are so strong that they take no interest in world opinion and as for the Allies they are independent and need no help.'

"The correspondent said that he heard that Russia will import food from the United States and their manpower resources are enormous. Sovorov has declared: It is easy so easy for God to create a Russian.

"The correspondent asked Tanner after an interview of about an hour if everything he said could be published. The answer was: 'For my part I have no objection.'"

U.S. Cigarette Shortage

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, November 23.—A serious shortage of cigarettes in the United States is predicted this winter for civilians will get fewer than 2.09 per cent cigarettes this year than last year, according to a Washington report. The shortage is due to manpower lack, shortage of paper for shipping cartons, increase in orders from the armed forces and counter-shopping by individual smokers for their favorite brands. Huge Government purchases of cigars, especially 3 cents to 12 cents brands, will this year leave cigar smokers with half of the cigars they bought in 1942. What is left to buy are mostly expensive imported cigars which most smokers have never heard of and which they do not like.

Stalin, Subasic Confer

Domei

STOCKHOLM, November 23.—Soviet Premier Josef Stalin conferred with Ivan Subasic, Premier of the refugee Yugoslav regime, yesterday, for the first time, according to a Moscow dispatch. Vyacheslav Molotov, Soviet Foreign Commissar, also participated in the conference while the regime was represented by the proxy of the president of the Committee of National Liberation and Stanoje Simitch, Ambassador to Moscow.

2,600 SICILIANS STAGE RIOT

Clamor for Independence From Italy —19 Killed, 102 Wounded

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, November 23.—Sicilian demonstrators in Palermo, staged a riot demanding independence and separation from Italy, according to a report from Rome. Italian troops turned their tommy-guns on the demonstrators, numbering 2,600, and killed 19 and wounded 102.

Noel Charles, British Ambassador to Rome, conveyed to Premier Ivanhoe Bonomi's hard-pressed Government the precise official message from London to the effect that any report that Britain was supporting the Sicilian independence movement was utterly false. The next day, the shooting in Palermo continued and casualties increased.

Herbert Matthews of the New York Times, after investigating the trouble, reported that riots were due in part to economic misery and the lack of food and that agents of the powerful organization of big landowners were using this misery to promote the Sicilian revolt.

The Empire of Italy is about to fall apart. General Joseph "Tito" Brozovitch is doggedly pushing Yugoslavia's claim to Trieste Fiume and Isthmia. In Athens, the Greeks, with support from Britain, are demanding the Dodecanese Islands.

RESPECTS SWEDISH RIGHTS

Reich Ready to Discuss Baltic Issue With Sweden

Domei

BERLIN, November 20.—Germany is prepared to enter into discussions with the Swedish Government as to the question of how legitimate Swedish interests can be maintained in the Baltic area, declared Dr. Paul Schmidt, Chief of the Press Section of the Wilhelmstrasse, at Monday's foreign press conference.

"After the Swedish Government drew the German Government's attention to the fact that by the proclamation of certain Baltic Sea areas as zones of operations, legitimate Swedish interests would be endangered, the matter was studied by the German side," continued Dr. Schmidt.

"The German Government definitely does not intend to interfere with legitimate Swedish interests," emphasized the spokesman. "Certain areas of the Baltic Sea were declared zones of operations in order to prevent eventual German-Swedish incidents."

"Therefore, the Swedish view as to who is responsible for such eventual incidents must be rejected. Germany, however, is prepared to examine which concrete Swedish interests might be involved and to exchange views with the Swedish Government whether and in what way such legitimate interests can be taken into consideration."

TO REDEEM ITALIAN NOTES

U.S. Believed Will Set Up Dollar Credit in Italy

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, November 19.—President Roosevelt has declared that the United States will immediately redeem part of the Italian invasion currency used in paying the United States Troops, Time Magazine reported on October 23. It will be done by setting up United States dollar credit for Italy.

Italy can spend the credit on food, medicine, industrial machinery etc. Through Lei Crowley's Foreign Economic Administration, deliveries are being made in all free space on already heavily loaded army ships.

Wall Street believes that the Italian invasion currency might be one-third or more of the total.

One piece of news is that the anti-Axis have stopped using currency.

Italy's national debt is now more than 650,000,000 lire and is still soaring. Bank notes in circulation have doubled since the anti-Axis invasion and now stand at 260,000,000 lire.

The anti-Axis currency contributed only a small part to this increase. With a government budget of 100,000,000 lire and a revenue of 20,000,000 lire a little more than enough to pay interest on the national debt, the Italians have been working the printing presses over time.

Stalin Proposes Alliance

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, November 23.—Marshal Joseif Stalin is quoted by Moscow radio as proposing a post-war alliance with the Slav states especially Poland working side by side so that the threat of war is removed forever.

51 Terrorists Rounded Up

Special to the Nippon Times

ZURICH, November 23.—A total of 51 persons suspected of terrorist activities were arrested today during wide-spread searches in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Haifa, according to a Reuter dispatch from Jerusalem.

'TITO' PLANS TO SETTLE BALKAN ISSUE IN MOSCOW

Departs for Soviet Capital; Desires Federation of Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Macedonia

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, November 23.—The sudden departure of General Joseph "Tito" Brozovitch, Commander-in-Chief of the Yugoslav Partisan Army, for Moscow, is probably connected with the total German collapse in the Balkans, and he is said to have plans for the solution of the Balkan problem which will cause opposition in many quarters says the Stockholms-Tidningen quoting a London dispatch.

"Tito" desires to form a federation composed of the old state of Yugoslavia, Bulgaria and Macedonia, and this plan is causing anxiety in Serbia, the dispatch further revealed.

Plan to Form Close Ties

Domei

BERNE, November 21.—Negotiations concerning a union of Bulgaria and Yugoslavia are reported by United Press from Ankara. It is said that these negotiations are at present taking place in Belgrade where a Bulgarian delegation has arrived in order to participate in the so-called anti-Fascist meeting of the people.

This meeting, which has been arranged by General Joseph "Tito" Brozovitch, as a kind of parliament, consists of Serbian Communist functionaries. The Bulgarian delegation is led by the Communist Minister, Perpashoff, and the leftist politician, Todoroff.

According to U.P., the Bulgarian delegation submitted proposals comprising the following points: Stabilization of currency; coordination of trade and industry; close cooperation in foreign policy.

The U.P. report adds that "Tito" demands for Yugoslavia a passage to Salonika.

Chaos Rife in Belgrade

Domei

BERLIN, November 21.—Nine Soviet officers have been shot in the streets of Belgrade recently, writes the Belgrade paper Sepski Rad which appears in Germany and whose information is based on reports from refugees who recently succeeded in escaping from parts of Serbia occupied by the Soviets.

According to these refugees, terror is reigning in Belgrade, and [illegible] from the fortifications of the old Turkish fortress where mass executions of national Serbians are being carried out.

General Joseph "Tito" Brozovitch has established a "central state commission" which is compiling a list of war criminals who are to be sentenced. Among others there are 11 generals on the list. All the wives of the Serbian officers were arrested immediately after the arrival of the Soviets who accused them of having a "national attitude."

Regarding the political situation, the Sepski Rad reports that the discussions between "Tito" and Ivan Subasic, Premier of the Yugoslav emigrant regime, which have lasted now for more than two weeks, have not lead to any results thus far. Neither the representatives of the old Serbian democratic parties nor the Serbian orthodox churches, whose heads had left the country, have declared their willingness to cooperate.

P.I. SET FOR HEROES' DAY

Kalibapi Maps Out Plans for Nation-wide Celebration

Domei

MANILA, November 22.—The "National Heroes' Day" celebration for November 30 this year has been placed under the auspices of the Kalibapi by President Jose P. Laurel in an administrative order made public today by the Board of Information.

The auspicious day, which coincides with the birthday anniversary of the Filipino hero and patriot, Andres Bonifacio, will be observed throughout the Philippines with appropriate ceremonies. President Laurel's administrative order has called upon all elements of the Filipino population to cooperate with the Kalibapi in commemorating the occasion.

The Kalibapi is at present preparing a program for the activities to be held in connection with the National Heroes' Day celebration, as well as the observance of Bonifacio's birthday anniversary.

A brief but fitting memorial service honoring national heroes, including speeches on the significance of the day, recitations on the brave deeds of Filipino patriots, floral offerings at monuments erected in memory of heroes and the paying of homage to them at these same places will be held in all provinces, towns and cities. However, due to wartime conditions, festivities will not be carried out on the same scale as in former years.

Strike by 'Hello' Girls in U.S. Threatens To Tie Up Nation's Long-Distance Phones

Domei

LISBON, November 23.—The possibility of White House action loomed today as telephone operators in Washington, Detroit and large cities in Ohio stayed away from work and the strike threatened to spread over the entire nation in sympathy with the Ohio walkouts, according to a New York dispatch.

The original walkout of telephone operators at Dayton, Ohio, was in protest against the Bell Company hiring out-of-town operators. The officials of the Ohio Federation of Telephone Workers and an independent union had asked 41 affiliated unions throughout the country for active support. As the result of the walkout, more than two dozen Ohio cities are affected.

At 6 a.m. today, the telephone operators in Washington, D.C. and Detroit, Michigan, formally walked out. The New York Federation of Long-Lines Telephone Workers was quoted by a union official to be considering calling a sympathetic strike in New York.

The War Labor Board yesterday referred the dispute to the Economic Stabilization Director Fred N. Vinson after ordering the strikers to return to work. The spokesman for Director Vinson predicted definite action today but did not say what kind of action might be taken.

The Army or War Communications Board is expected to take over the operation exchanges if Stabilization Director Vinson recommends federal seizure to President Roosevelt.

U.S. AIRMEN DROP FOOD

Japanese at Leyte Welcome Presents Sent by Mistake

Domei

CEBU, November 23.—During this war the Americans have committed many follies and mistakes, but they have probably never been so chagrined as they must have been some days ago when they rained gifts of food and ammunition from the skies on the wrong troops.

In the course of an advance to the peak of a mountain, a Japanese Unit on Leyte Island made a detour halfway up. Entirely unaware of this move by the Japanese soldiers, an enemy unit that had been stationed at the foot of the mountain also commenced marching toward the peak.

The Japanese troops which had in the meanwhile come to the rear of the enemy, completely occupied the enemy position. Not knowing this, a formation of enemy aircraft came flying over the spot and after dropping a large quantity of food and ammunition, flew away again. The officers and men of the Japanese Unit had a hearty laugh at the enemy's expense and were thoroughly delighted with the unexpected presents from "Santa Claus" Roosevelt.

PASSES WEDEMYER'S PLAN

Chiang Agrees to Disposition Forces As Urged by U.S. General

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, November 23.—Major-General Albert Wedemyer, American Commander in China, and Chief-of-Staff to Chiang Kai-shek at a press conference on Wednesday, announced that Chiang had accepted the general outline of his plan for the disposition of the Chungking forces in China.

Wedemyer declared that his plan to meet the Japanese threat is now going into effect. He also asserted that Japan would not be defeated by the island-to-island strategy in the Pacific. He said, "To rout the Japanese, we must come to grips with them on the continent of China. We must get a lodgement on the mainland and seek communication with that lodgement."

The American commander was asked whether he planned to bring United States troops from India to China. Wedemyer replied that he foresaw the employment of all kinds of resources from all directions.

PACIFIC WAR DISCUSSED

Admiral Fraser of British Fleet in Asia Attends London Talks

Domei

LISBON, November 22.—Important discussions vitally affecting Britain's part in East Asia's naval war have been taking place in London recently, according to a Reuter's dispatch from London.

Admiral Sir Bruce Fraser, Commander-in-Chief of the British Eastern Fleet, who is not back at his post, flew to England within two months of his new appointment to take part in these discussions. The report said that naval observers hint important developments may be expected in naval operations in the Indian Ocean as a result of the decisions taken at the recent conference. It is even believed that the United States has now reached an agreement with Britain wherein the Royal Navy units will probably cooperate in Pacific actions with Admiral Chester Nimitz's fleet.

Enforces Censorship

Domei

STOCKHOLM, November 22.—The Belgian Chamber of Deputies granted today special powers to the Minister of Defense to exercise censorship, according to a Brussels dispatch. This step has temporarily eased the danger facing the Belgian political circles in which the Pierlot regime and the Leftists and the Resistance Groups have been opposing each other, the dispatch revealed.

FORDE'S PLAN CRITICIZED

Public Opposed to Australia Controlling Inter-State Airlines

Domei

LISBON, November 23.—The announcement by Francis Forde, Australian Acting Prime Minister, that Australia will permanently take over all inter-state airlines was severely criticized today, according to a Sydney dispatch.

Criticisms came from federal opposition quarters, members of airline companies and members of the public, who expressed concern at what seems to them labor's initial move toward nationalization of industry. There are seven inter-state airlines affected. The Government spokesman said statutory authority would be set up perhaps in the form of a commission to administer airways.

KWEILIN AIRFIELD IN RUINS

Enemy Destroyed Facilities at 1st Base Before Fleeing

By A. TOKUNI

Of the Military Press Corps

KWEILIN, November 22.—The first airfield of the Kweilin group, which is located at a point about 15 kilometers southwest of Kweilin City on the Kweilin-Liuchow Road, had been reduced to ruins by the enemy when he fled before the onrush of the Japanese forces.

The airfield is littered with empty gasoline drums, numbering about 20,000, which had been brought [illegible] by plane. The runway, which is about 30 meters wide and 1,500 meters long, is made of stones and earth pounded flat, and is not very suitable for large-sized planes.

The repair shops, now in ruins, used to stand behind this runway. The whole place is strewn with empty cans and a mess of various airplane parts. The same can be said of the factories, none of which now exist. Among the ruins can be seen plane engines, auxiliary gasoline tanks, and also a miscellaneous collection of airplane parts.

BRITISH SUFFERINGS TOLD

Domei

STOCKHOLM, November 21.—In view of the campaign in the United States against further Lend-Lease deliveries to England, Ben Smith, the representative of the British Ministry of Supply in New York stated in a public speech that England so far had spent £25,000,000,000 sterling for the war and that the annual expenditures were at present £5,000,000,000, according to the British New Service.

The British foreign trade, on the other hand, had decreased 30 per cent below the 1938 figure. England, Smith continued, had used up her entire reserves and was now in need of 50 per cent more export than before the war in order to remain solvent.

The Daily Sketch, in an editorial on the same subject writes that the world did not know how greatly England had suffered in this war. From the beginning of the war until the end of June 1944, altogether 53,747 English civilians had been killed in air attacks and 68,996 had been wounded. Hundreds of British cities and villages had been extensively damage and not a single London district had been spared. The V-1 had destroyed or damaged no less than 1,027,995 houses. During a certain period 700 houses had been damaged per hour in London.

England was not complaining about the scarcity of food, petrol, beer and tobacco or the very great traffic difficulties. England was forced to get used to the blackout regulations, to the coal shortage and evacuations and, finally, England had to sacrifice her bank accounts in the United States and her investments in American securities.

Builds Jet-Propulsion Craft

Domei

LISBON, November 23.—The Rolls Royce Limited makers of Britain's Merlin and Griffon aircraft engines, is now engaged in work for jet-propulsion craft, it was disclosed today, according to a London dispatch.

SPANISH REDS PLANNING ANTI-FRANCO MOVEMENT

Exiled Spaniards in France, North Africa, Mexico, Britain Set for Joint Action

The arrest of saboteurs and assassins in France and their subsequent trials have made it increasingly evident how big a share the Spanish Reds and other Communists who participated in the Spanish Civil War had in the underground terror organization in France, according to a recent special Berlin dispatch to the Nippon Times.

In the summer of 1942, the Paris police received information of a secret organization of the Communist Party in the Seine Department. After observing its activities for some time, they succeeded on the night of October 13 in arresting all the members. Most of them had belonged to the international brigades in Spain and had been connected with Communistic organizations in Moscow. This incident was allowed to pass without undue attention by the authorities.

However, later occurrences could not pass notice. It became manifest that the arrests which were increasing at an alarming rate were all actively connected with the resistance movement in France. The men were members of the National Front, a predominantly Communist organization which to the present day has refused to join the other French organizations.

Leading Secret Existence

The "Federation Anarchiste Espagnole" which since the end of the Spanish Civil War had been leading a secret existence in France, joined the National Front en bloc. The fighting troops of the National Front, called the France-Tireurs-Partisans, were organized in groups of six as during the Spanish Civil War which enabled them to evade incorporation into the regular French forces.

In Paris, according to a report in the Gazette de Lausanne, representatives of the exiled Republican Spanish Government took by force the Maison Basque in Avenue Marceau which the present Spanish Foreign Minister and the former Ambassador, Lequerica, had acquired in 1940 for the Spanish Falange. After taking possession of this building, the Spanish Republicans addressed a message to the De Gaulle Government in which they stressed the activities of the Spanish volunteers within the ranks of the French forces.

The ties between Republican Spain and Democratic France have become still closer. The Spaniards who have been freed from French concentration camps will never forget the help extended to them by the French resistance movement during their years of imprisonment. The close connection which for years has existed between Red Spain and the French Movement of Resistance, which today has come into power, is admitted for the first time.

Spanish Reds Released

The Spanish Reds have been released from concentration camps, not only in the north of the Pyrenees but also to the south of the Iberian Peninsula. In North Africa, 50,000 Spanish Reds who were deported there by the Daladier Government have been incorporated into Communist Party organizations. Erstwhile members of the international brigades of Red Spain, after three months' training at Moscow, returned to North Africa and were immediately commissioned as officers with the dissident forces.

Negotiations are now under way among the various leaders of the exiled Spaniards with the object of embarking upon a joint action against the Franco Government. Regarding this point, the Gazette de Lausanne reports that besides the Spanish Reds now in France and North Africa, also the groups at present in Mexico under Martinez Barrio, former president of the Cortes, and the organizations installed in London are taking part in these talks.

In London the Spanish Emigrant Trade Union has already staged a public demonstration against the Franco Government. It is reported by Reuter that at a meeting, the president, Jack Tanner, assailed not only General Francisco Franco but also Prime Minister Churchill. Churchill, in his declaration before the House of Commons, may speak in friendly terms of the Spain under Franco but he is powerless to prevent agitations in his own country of the Spanish emigrants against Franco.

U.S. General Wounded

Domei

LISBON, November 22.—Brigadier-General Laverne Saunders, Commander of the U.S. 20th Air Force in the China-India area, is reported to have been wounded in a combat recently and air transported to Washington, arriving there yesterday, according to a New York dispatch. It is not disclosed where or when Saunders was wounded. He participated several times in raids on Japan as the commander of the B-29 Bomber Corps.

Fuehrer's Headquarters

November 23

The long-range fire of our new weapons was directed against London, Antwerp and Brussels yesterday.

The enemy large-scale attacks in the Aachen area increased yesterday after a temporary let-up and our troops continued to hold their positions. Our Eschweiler garrison which the enemy had approached from three sides escaped encirclement and detached themselves to a position east of the town according to orders. In the first week of the new defensive battle at Aachen, the enemy lost altogether 820 tanks and at least 20,000 men. Our losses, too, are heavy but are far exceeded by those of the Americans.

Our garrison at Metz is still holding its own in grim house-to-house fighting against the enemy who succeeded in advancing toward the center of the town.

In Lorraine, the enemy continued his pressure in the former areas of attack. East of Saarburg, enemy tank spearheads succeeded in crossing the Lorraine-Alsace border and the town of Zabern was lost. In the western Vosges, local fighting with enemy battalions continued particularly east of the upper Meurthe.

The citadel of Belfort held its own against all enemy attacks and the enemy forces which had been cut off in the Muehlhausen-Basel area were attacked by our local reserves. The enemy yesterday in vain attempted to pierce our bolt position between the southern spurs of the Vosges and the Swiss border in order to establish contact with his encircled formations.

In the Adriatic coastal sector of the central Italian front the enemy's array of artillery and battleplanes assumed a violence which had hardly ever been experienced here before. During the night the enemy again resumed his big attack with the focal point northwest of Forli and along the coast illuminating the field of battle with innumerable searchlights. Fierce fighting is particularly raging in the enemy penetration point northwest of Forli.

From the Danube bridgeheads in southern Hungary, fresh Soviet attacks are reported which are still continuing and which brought to the enemy slight gains of ground. The 10th day of the defense battle in central Hungary again brought a full defensive success for our infantry and tank formations effectively supported by the Luftwaffe. Northeast of Budapest and in the Gyoengyoes areas, strong Soviet attacks were smashed and 29 enemy tanks were destroyed by army formations and 35 more by battleplanes and Luftwaffe flak. Own counter-attacks resulted in improving our positions and in annihilating scattered enemy formations.

Northeast of Tokay, the enemy bridgehead across the Theiss was eliminated by one Hungarian division except for a narrow strip of land. Southwest of Ungvar, the breakthrough attempts by several Soviet divisions were foiled again yesterday. In the Hungarian area, the Luftwaffe with telling effect raided enemy tank spearheads and the supply traffic.

The Soviet attacks in Courland decreased in violence in view of the unbroken defensive strength of our troops. A protruding front bulge was straightened out according to orders and the pursuing enemy was repelled. On the southern part of the Sworbe Peninsula, the garrison, supported by our naval forces held their positions against concentrated enemy attacks. Patrol vessels of our navy sank one Soviet E-boat at the northeastern part of the peninsula.

American terror raiders bombed various towns in southern Reich. In Munich the Frauenkirche was badly hit by an explosive bomb while other cultural monuments were damaged. Air defenses shot down 19 enemy aircraft including 15 four-engined bombers.

French Funds Frozen in U.S.

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, November 23.—The exact amount of French funds now blocked in the United States is $1,594,000,000 and out of this sum, $900,000,000 is in gold, the Times reported from Washington on October 26. Of the total, only about $500,000,000 belong to private individuals or firms, while the rest consists of Government funds. France is the second largest owner of blocked holdings in the United States, the largest being Holland with $1,600,000,000 still frozen.

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CANADIAN CABINET FACES CRISIS ON CONSCRIPTION

Mackenzie King Asks Commons For Vote of Confidence on Controversy

Domei

LISBON, November 23.—MacKenzie King's Government of Canada faced its gravest situation since the beginning of the war as the Prime Minister asked the House of Commons today to approve a resolution of confidence in him in regard to the overseas troops conscription issue which during the height of controversy led Colonel J. L. Ralston, former Defense Minister, to resign bitterly earlier last month after protesting that enough volunteer personnel could not be made available for overseas service, according to an Ottawa dispatch.

MacKenzie King today placed a resolution on the Commons order paper "that this House will aid the Government in its policy of maintaining vigorous war" which is regarded as seeking a vote of confidence.

A Reuters correspondent reported that there is no doubt in political circles that it was the decision reached by the Cabinet last night which largely closed the breach over the conscription issue, but it was considered possible that the Cabinet was not unanimous.

General G. L. McNaughton, who became Defense Minister last month at the height of the controversy over compelling overseas conscription, stressed the necessity for overseas conscription of 17,000 Canadian home defense troops.

This conscription issue truly appears to have reached its climax. On the outcome of the Commons action which probably will not reach a vote before next week rests the fate of Prime Minister MacKenzie King's Liberal Party Government.

Canadian Air Head Quits

Domei

LISBON, November 23.—Charles G. Power, Canadian Air Minister, has resigned from MacKenzie King's Cabinet because he is opposed to conscription for overseas service, according to an urgent dispatch from Ottawa.

528,795 U.S. Casualties

Domei

LISBON, November 23.—American combat casualties since the beginning of the war through November 7 of the army and naval forces now total 528,795, Henry Stimson, Secretary of War, announced today, according to a Washington dispatch.

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[illegible] CHANGES BY ENEMY

Preparing for Joint Action in China, Pacific, Southeast Asia War Zones

The change effected in the military command in Southeast Asia by the United States and Britain, coupled with the gradual transfer of the British and French fleets to the Pacific area, clearly indicates the enemy's aim to adopt a new strategy in his counter-thrusts against the Japanese Forces in the Burmese, Indian, and Chinese War theaters, says a Mainichi dispatch from Shanghai dated November 19. Continuing, the report says:

The war situation has become particularly intense in southwestern China, the Philippine area, and Southeast Asia. With the fall of Liuchow and Kweilin in China, and the landing of American forces on Leyte Island in the Philippines, activities of the anti-Axis forces in Southeast Asia under Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten, Commander-in-Chief of the anti-Axis Forces in Southeast Asia, have been greatly intensified.

Indications point to the fact that the enemy is preparing joint operations in three theaters of war, namely, first, on the China Continent by the American-Chungking land and air forces, second, in the Pacific area by the American-Australian combined forces, and lastly, in the Southeast Asia war theater.

Since the recall of General Joseph Stilwell, Commander of the US forces in Chungking, Burma and India, the enemy has revamped his operational strategy in that area.

With the recall of Stilwell, the command on the continent has been divided between Major-General Albert C. Wedeyemer, Commander of the U.S. forces in China, and Lieutenant-General Daniel Sultan, Commander of the U.S. forces in India and Burma. As was declared by both commanders in their first addresses after their assumption of the new posts, the change in command will allow the American forces in China to concentrate their efforts on the war operations while those in the Burmese and Indian areas will devote themselves to the task of transporting more war arms and other supplies to Chungking. Thus it is now obvious that the American war leaders have decided to ignore the diplomatic rift between the United States and Chungking in order to augment the fighting strength of the anti-Axis forces in China.

The headquarters of the anti-Axis forces announced on November 17 the appointment of Lieutenant-General A. Wheeler as Deputy-Commander in Southeast Asia, succeeding Stilwell. Wheeler has also been invested with the right of applying the Lend-Lease Act in the Southeast Asia area. Noteworthy is the fact that the new Deputy-Commander will play his role in a different manner from Stilwell who was absorbed in operational strategy.

General Sir Oliver Leese, Commander of the British 8th Army in Italy, has been appointed Commander of the Anti-Axis Land Forces in Southeast Asia and has already arrived in India. The anti-Axis land forces in Southeast Asia is the general nomenclature for the British 11th Army, the U.S. Army in Indo-Burmese theater of war, and the Chungking expeditionary forces in India and Burma. The forementioned U.S. Army in India and Burma under Sultan, and the Chungking expeditionary forces under General Cheng Tung-kuo have been placed under the command of Leese. Therefore, Leese has become the commander of the anti-Axis land forces in Southeast Asia both nominally and factually.

The appointment of Wheeler as Deputy-Commander in Southeast Asia, may be construed to mean that the responsibility of the southeastern Asia operations has been taken over by the British.

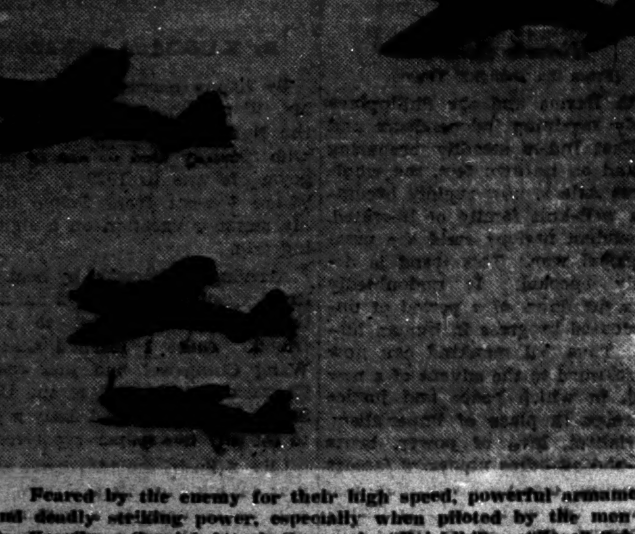
At present the Chungking expeditionary forces are composed of 16 divisions, five in north Burma, and 11 divisions training behind the lines in the Indo-Burmese area. It is reported that Leese will soon depart for Chungking to be invested as commander of the Chungking forces.

The British War Office appointed Marshal Sir Trafford Leigh-Mallory as Commander-in-Chief of the Anti-[illegible] Forces in Southeast Asia. Leigh-Mallory, accompanied by Lady Mallory, left England on November 14 for his post, but his plane has been missing since then. It is thought that a new appointment will be made.

It must be surmised that the British fleet will be dispatched gradually to the East Asia theater of war as soon as the offensive on Germany progresses successfully as asserted by Prime Minister Churchill and other British leaders.

By the recent conference between Churchill and General Charles de Gaulle, it is reported that a decision has been reached to send the remnant French fleet, with the Richelieu as the flagship, to the Southeast Asia War zone. Furthermore, a part of the French army training in jungle warfare in North Africa will be shipped on the French fleet. In view of the foregoing changes and movements on land, sea, and air, Chungking is already calling on America and Britain to start the anti-Axis offensive in Southeast Asia.

Japan's 'Zero' Fighter Planes



Feared by the enemy for their high speed, powerful armament, and deadly striking power, especially when piloted by the men of the Kamikaze Special Attack Corps, the "Reishiki" or "Zero" fighter planes of the Japanese Forces are operating in the Pacific war theater and have already chalked up a big score of victories against the U.S. naval and air forces. It's "finish" for the enemy when "Zero" fighters appear on the scene, and he knows it. Above is a formation of these one-winged death-carriers speeding to the battle zone.

Nippon's Zero, Thunderbolt Fighter Planes Exact Big Toll From Enemy Air Force, Navy

"Reishiki" and "Raiden" are the names of the two fighter planes of the Imperial Japanese Navy Air Force which have demonstrated their extraordinary combat potentialities in recent air battles in various theaters of war and whose functions have just been made public.

"Reishiki" or "Zero" fighters have been in operation since before the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia and their combat records are crowned with marvellous achievements. This fighter is equipped with powerful guns, essential for success in air duel, and has a high speed. It is called "Reisen" by soldiers at the front, while the enemy calls it "Zero fighter" with much sense of horror. The enemy airmen fear this type of Japanese fighter plane so much that on encountering them, they make it a rule to dump their bombs in haste and flee.

The "Raiden" or "Thunderbolt" fighter is newer than its sister plane, "Reishiki," and is understood to be superior to the latter. "Thunderbolt" fighters have scored no less brilliant results in the course of the current war. These superior fighters were among the Japanese planes that valiantly counter-attacked the enemy raiders which came to northern Kyushu and brought down many of them.

The "Zero" fighters were among the planes with which the heroic members of the Kamikaze Special Attack Corps went into action to exact enormous tolls from the American task force in the recent aerial battles in Philippine waters. Both of these fighters are capable, if need be, of carrying bombs.

Counter-attacking the enemy task force whose deck-planes raided Manila on September 21 and 22, the "Zero" and "Thunderbolt" fighters made direct bomb hits on two large aircraft carriers, set ablaze the deck-planes parked on two medium-sized carriers and damaged a cruiser both by bombing and strafing attacks. They are also credited with inflicting damage on two battleships and two special carriers in the Gulf of Leyte on October 19 and 20.

PREPARE FOR 2ND ATTACK

Free Indian Army's Plan Revealed At Azad Hind Day Rally

Domei

SHONAN, November 22.—"The Azad Hind Fauj is preparing for the second attack against the British on the Indo-Burmese border, and the lull in the fighting there will soon be broken," declared Lieutenant-Colonel Gilani of the Azad Hind Fauj at a mass meeting of local Indians held at the Shonan Chapter of the Indian Independence League yesterday evening on the occasion of Azad Hind Day.

During the course of his address, Lieutenant-Colonel Gilani pointed out that since the formation of the Azad Hind Government under the direction of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose 13 months ago, the Indian Independence Movement throughout East Asia has made great strides in the pursuit of its avowed object of freeing India from the despotic rule of the British.

He went on to declare that with the setting up of the War Council recently, the movement has gained greater momentum, and present indications point to the fact that all preparations are proceeding apace for the second campaign to be shortly launched by the Azad Hind Fauj against the common British enemy of East Asia.

P.I. Seeks More Constables

Domei

MANILA, November 22.—With a view to insuring greater safety for a larger number of civilian population in Manila during the present emergency, as well as bolstering the Metropolitan Constabulary Force for the proper maintenance of peace and order, Military Governor Leon Guinto today issued a call for 500 additional men to join the local police force.

Brazilian Navy to Patrol

Domei

LISBON, November 21.—United States warships which until now had patrolled the South Atlantic together with the Brazilian naval units have now been transferred to the Pacific so henceforth the Brazilian fleet alone will patrol the South Atlantic, Admiral Henrique Guilhem, Brazilian Navy Minister, announced yesterday, according to a Rio de Janeiro dispatch.

TO DRAW LUCKY NUMBERS

50 Persons Each to Receive ¥50,000 Out of First Debentures

The 50 lucky persons each to receive ¥50,000 out of the first "Victory" debentures (Fuku-Ken) will be decided at 9 a.m. at the Japan Hypothec Bank today when the numbers will be drawn. The first "Victory" debentures went on sale on September 25 and were immediately sold out. There will be a total of 850,000 persons receiving the first, second, third and fourth class prizes. The first and second classes will have supplementary prizes for the preceding and the following number.

The encouragement prizes will be paid in cash from December 25 onward at the Japan Hypothec Bank, its branches and agencies, post offices and other banks throughout Japan. The prize winning numbers will be announced over the radio at noon on the day of the lottery and will also be published in the newspapers, the Official Gazette and the Shu-ho.

MORE CHANGE IN CHUNGKING

Liang Han-tso Named Head of Overseas Publicity Department

Domei

CANTON, November 21.—The following are some more of the changes made in the reshuffle of the Chungking Cabinet, decided upon at the meetings of the Central Executive Council of the Chungking Kuomintang and the Supreme National Defense Council, according to a Chungking dispatch.

Liang Han-tso has been appointed head of the Overseas Department of the Kuomintang and Shih-chieh head of its Publicity Department and Chen Li-pu head of its Organization Department. General Ho Ying-chin retains his post as Chief of the General Staff and it is reported that he is expected to assume another important military post.

Hata Pays Homage

Domei

NANKING, November 21.—Field-Marshal Shunroku Hata, Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Expeditionary Forces in China, yesterday paid homage before the remains of President Wang Ching-wei, which is now laid in state in the Ceremonial Hall of the National Government of China.

DARING RAMMING FEAT OF SAKAMOTO IS TOL

Japanese Flier Sent Giant B-29 Plunging to Its Fate After Ripping Its Tail

By K. WATANABE, H. YAMAMOTO and Y. KUSABA

Of the Military Press Corps

AT A CERTAIN BASE, November 22.—A vivid account of how Sub-Lieutenant Mikihiko Sakamoto's plane rammed itself against one of the B-29's that raided Kyushu on the morning of November 21, thereby sending the enemy plane hurtling to the ground with its tail completely torn off, is given by an eye-witness as follows:

Although half of the invading enemy planes were shot down or damaged, behind the brilliant results of the day lay the sacrifice of four Japanese planes. On this day Sub-Lieutenant Sakamoto, as leader of a Japanese Air Unit, engaged in several furious encounters with the enemy. His bullets exhausted, Sub-Lieutenant Sakamoto was on the point of returning to the base when he suddenly became aware of about 10 enemy planes in the air above an important location. Immediately, he charged straight into the heart of the enemy formation. Closing in on the enemy, the Sub-Lieutenant rammed his plane into what appeared to be the leader plane.

The huge B-29, its tail ripped off, plunged downward. With it, Sub-Lieutenant Sakamoto's plane also went spinning earthward.

Sub-Lieutenant K., one of the eye-witnesses, speaks thus on the gallant death of his comrade:

"I saw a comrade plane diving headlong into the enemy formation. The next instant, a black object plunged on its downward course. It was a plane bearing the Rising Sun insignia. I knew the plane had rammed itself against the enemy. Then the big body of a tailless B-29 went hurtling to the ground."

Describing the thrilling scene of a flaming Japanese plane plunging toward the enemy, Sub-Lieutenant I. says:

"A comrade plane dived right into the midst of a formation of about a dozen enemy planes. It was like a ball of fire plunging through the air. However, it failed to hit its objective. I vowed to wreak vengeance on the enemy. In the fierceness of my own encounter with the enemy planes I could not ascertain who the hero was."

Blasted Three Planes

Sub-Lieutenant Mikihiko Sakamoto rammed his new "Zero" fighter plane against a B-29 when the enemy raided Kyushu on November 21. The reports of the daring ramming act were brought back to the base by the pilots of three comrade planes who had witnessed the scene.

Sub-Lieutenant Sakamoto's indomitable fighting spirit and supreme loyalty are comparable to those of the men of the Kamikaze Special Attack Corps and his act is a manifestation of the spirit of Bushido.

The skies over Kyushu on this day were wrapped in heavy clouds. Visibility was extremely bad. When the enemy's approach was discovered, the Japanese Navy and Army planes assumed a counter-attacking position above XX. As soon as the enemy formation entered the Kyushu area, one enemy plane, then another and another were tackled by our air forces in a violent aerial combat.

Darting hither and thither in his "Zero" fighter plane, Sub-Lieutenant Sakamoto released a hail of bullets at the enemy formation and blasted one raider. He pursued another enemy plane and inflicted heavy damage on it.

Finally, with all his bullets exhausted, Sub-Lieutenant Sakamoto made straight for an enemy plane and rammed it.

Chinese Leaders Named

Domei

DJAKARTA, November 24.—A permanent committee composed of six members was elected at the first meeting of the Chinese Residents' Committee for Java's Defense held recently. Oei Tjonghauw, Central Councillor and Chairman of the Semarang Branch of the Chinese Residents' Association; Ong Siongtjoen, Chairman of the Solo branch; Oei Tiangtjoei, Central Councillor and Chairman of the Djakarta Municipality branch; Teng Djinseng, Chairman of the Bogor branch and two others were elected as the standing committee members met for the first time and discussed concrete measures to be taken for the practical participation of Chinese residents in civilian defense of Java.

P.I. Home Guards Formed

Domei

MANILA, November 24.—Approximately 850 members of the Home Guard took their oath of office before Military Governor Leon Guinto at the City Hall yesterday.

New Life Is Given to New Britain Island By Manifold Activities of Nippon Forces

By S. YAMAZAKI

Of the Military Press Corps

RABAUL.—A new life has developed here in New Britain through the unbending efforts of the Japanese Forces. On this forlorn island in the South Seas, the Japanese warriors have constructed dugouts connected by underground tunnels which will protect them from enemy bombings. Jungles have been cleared and mountains leveled where now vegetables are growing. With a grim determination to defend the lonely island till victory is assured, the Japanese warriors are surmounting all obstacles, eagerly praying for the success of their comrades in various theaters of war.

While daily assaulted by enemy planes, the Japanese on New Britain Island are combatting the difficult terrain in order to become self-supporting in foodstuffs. The dugouts have been so strongly constructed that no bombs can blast them. Thinking of their comrades on Bougainville, New Ireland and New Guinea islands, they are fighting against enemy attackers while wielding their hoes and spades to produce foodstuffs. Transcending personal interests and ambitions, they are enduring indescribable adversities. Their only thought is to carry on till victory is assured. Their lives resemble those of the pioneers who cultivated the vast wastelands in the Hokkaido.

On the cultivated land, vegetables are growing prosperously and tapioca, taro, banana, papaya and coconut trees are also seen abundantly. On the shore, soldiers can be seen absorbed in fishing. From copra, soap is being manufactured, and paper is also produced by their own hands. From nearby volcanoes, sulphur is developed and dilute sulphuric acid, which is indispensable for automobile batteries is sufficiently produced. Needles are made out of used-gramophone records while sake and miso (soy-bean paste) are also manufactured by those warriors. A daily "Rabaul Newspaper" is being published.

Everyone Busily Engaged

Mobilizing all available creative faculties, everybody is working away at his assigned duties. They have achieved good results in scientific fields while engaging in farming. That resolution to fight to the last is enabling them to surmount all sorts of difficulties. When they heard about the heroic death of their comrades on Tinian and Omiyajima islands, they prayed for the peaceful repose of the departed souls. Upon receipt of the news of the gallant death of the Garrison Forces at Tengyueh and Lhameng in Northern Burma, they paid their homage to the deceased heroes, turning toward the western skies.

Sticking out to the last with that battlecry, they are determined to carry on to the last. Attracting as many enemy planes and vessels near Rabaul, they are challenging the enemy to a war of attrition so as to give time to the production at home. Queried what they wanted most, they would unanimously reply, "more aircraft." For five years, 10 years, nay 30 or 50 years, till the enemy become exhausted, they will stick to their posts. If no victory is assured in their lifetime, they are sure that their posterity will carry on. That dauntless fighting spirit will constitute a foundation on which a victorious structure is to be built.

Till half a year ago, enemy planes which appeared over Rabaul were mostly Lockheed B-28's and Consolidated B-24's, but lately Vought-Sikorski fighter planes, North Americans and Consolidated PBY seaplanes have made their appearance. This change of enemy planes from one kind to another is sufficient to evince the progress of the war and intensification of scientific warfare. Thinking of their Fatherland, they would happily imagine new types of fighter and bomber planes which must have made their debut on many theaters of war.

Fellow-countrymen at home! Do your utmost to pull through the war of attrition. Scientists at home, fight out your war in science. Remember that many of your fellow-countrymen now entrenched in Bougainville, New Britain, New Guinea and on other islands are daily conbatting countless difficulties with firm confidence in final victory.

Funeral Rites Held For Wang Ching-wei; Hata, Kondo Attend

Domei

NANKING, November 23.—Funeral services were solemnized this morning at the foot of Tzuchinshan for Wang Ching-wei, the late President of the National Government of China, with the attendance of Chen Kung-po, Acting President, Chou Fo-hai, Finance Minister, other State Ministers, high-ranking officials and representatives of the Chinese people. Also attending the service were Field Marshal Shunroku Hata, outgoing Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Expeditionary Forces in China, who has been newly appointed Inspector-General of Military Education, Admiral Nobutake Kondo, Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Fleet in China Waters, Masayuki Tani, Japanese Ambassador to China, and other diplomatic envoys of Axis Powers. Similar functions were held in other parts of China, including Peking, Hankow and Shanghai.

PRESS COMMENTS

Friday, November 24

CHIANG KAI-SHEK'S FOLLY

MAINICHI—The joint American-Chungking campaign on the Continent is marked by a fundamental conflict of interests which is hard to solve. The United States attaches importance to China because she considers the latter an absolutely necessary foothold for carrying out a military campaign against Japan. Accordingly, she is bent on driving China by the most effective means to work as a wing of the general counter-offensive against Japan. Chungking's objective, however, lies in its "National construction through resistance against Japan." In other words, Chungking is endeavoring not only to defend its territory by means of resistance but through the war to complete its national unification as a modern independent country. Such being the case, Chungking regards the United States as a mere helper and is insisting that the right of war guidance in the China war zone is its own. It is but natural that Chungking should oppose the policy of the United States which is to rob Chungking of its territory on a pretense. It is needless to point out that the growing strife between the United States and Chungking is based on this fundamental conflict of interests.

Primarily, the character of the Chungking regime is marked by craftiness in which the traditional pride of the Chinese race and the self-complacent trend of a revolutionary regime are mixed. Even the Soviet Union felt this craftiness and stubbornness as may be gauged by the Borodin incident.

Cautiousness toward external power and the character of exclusionism are instinctive to the Nationalist Party. Chungking is fully aware that foreign assistance is absolutely necessary for carrying out its resistance against Japan, and that without the assistance of the United States it would find it impossible to carry on this resistance. But Chungking is using foreign assistance as a means of strengthening itself through fighting. It therefore puts a certain limit on the extent of its utilization of foreign power, but how effective this limit will prove in checking the onrushing influence of the United States is yet to be seen.

Chiang Kai-shek, by getting rid of General Joseph Stilwell, was able to some extent to adhere to his insistence. The independent action elements in Chungking boasted of the sound sovereignty of the Chinese Republic, but soon after Stilwell's withdrawal Chiang had to carry out a serious reorganization of his own regime. And from all indications it is undeniable that the Cabinet reshuffle was based on American request.

The main point in the Cabinet reshuffle lies in the withdrawal of Ho Ying-chin and H. H. Kung. These two men have assisted Chiang Kai-shek for eight and 12 years respectively in military and political affairs and they are among the prominent leaders of Chungking. However, although they have been removed from their positions in accordance with Chiang's America-appeasing policy, they still remain in office as Chief of the General Staff and Vice-President of the Executive Yuan respectively. It is unthinkable that any fundamental change should be effected to Chungking's traditional policy of self-preservation. Chiang Kai-shek will very likely cope with the strong pressure of the United States with the dual policy of "meeting the other party's wishes on the one hand and resisting it on the other."

What arouses our interest here is the fact that not content with the demand for mobilization of the total power of Chungking in the war against Japan, of late the United States has formed plans to seize China as a base for the hegemony of East Asia. It is clear from the reports of Willkie and Wallace on Chungking that the United States is seeking the economic enslavement of China through which the inflated productive power of the United States in wartime can find an outlet in the future. Nelson's establishment of Wartime Production Board in Chungking to unify the latter's economic construction and the materials mobilization program of the United States, is the first step in the concrete plan for the economic enslavement of China. The United States includes among her important war objectives the subjugation of China. We can only laugh at Chiang Kai-shek who is trying to patch up matters with petty tricks in the face of the inordinate ambition of the United States.

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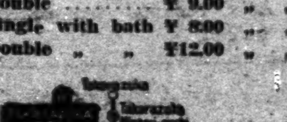

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SHOICHI KAWAMURA

TOKYO, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1944

Currency Chaos in Europe

Currency expansion with its consequent bane of vicious inflation may be an unavoidable phenomenon in a world at war, but the inflationary tendency has been aggravated beyond all reason by the deliberate policy of the British and American authorities in all the countries which their military forces have occupied. A glance at a few of the countries of Europe now under the heel of the Anglo-American armies will suffice to demonstrate this fact.

When in June the Second Front was formed in France, the Anglo-American troops were supplied with franc notes which had been printed in the United States without any agreement having been arrived at with the De Gaullist regime which was then at Algiers. Although President Roosevelt issued the assurance that, once a government possessing real power is set up in France, a fair rate of exchange would be established so that no Frenchman who accepts these notes will suffer any loss, nothing has in fact been done. In the meantime Sir John Anderson, British Chancellor of the Exchequer, has declared that these franc notes would be issued on the arbitrary basis of an exchange rate of 200 francs to one pound.

The use of these franc notes angered the De Gaullists, because there had been no prior agreement concerning their issuance between them and the Anglo-American authorities. The De Gaullists protested that it constituted a violation of sovereignty, but inasmuch as the complaint was only a matter of "face", it was cast aside with the passage of time. The rate itself, of one pound to 200 francs, is not unreasonable low when it is compared to the pre-war rate of one pound to 176 francs. But because living costs have become more than doubled since 1938 and because the general level of prices has become about two and a half times what they used to be, inflation in France has been growing steadily worse with the increasing use of the American-printed currency.

The arbitrary character of the Anglo-American financial policy toward France is emphasized by the contrast afforded by the Soviet policy toward Czechoslovakia. In the latter case, in accordance with an agreement between the Soviet Government and the Government of Czechoslovakia, the Soviet forces will refrain from issuing any notes, leaving the issuance of currency exclusively to the Czechoslovakian Government. To be sure, Czechoslovakian bank notes are at present printed in the Soviet Union, but they are first handed to an authorized representative of the Czechoslovakian Government, who then turns over to the Soviet military authorities the amount to be used by the Soviet troops in Czechoslovakia. A difficulty exists in the problem of deciding upon the exchange rate between the ruble and the crown, but this problem is purely a technical, and not a political, one.

The currency situation in Belgium furnishes an example of utmost chaos. On October 10, an exchange of the old franc used by the Germans and the new franc was carried out, so that the old franc possessed by the people, which was valued at eleven shillings four pence or 123 francs to a pound, went out of circulation to be replaced by the new franc bearing the rate of 176 francs to a pound. The exchange was carried out at the rate of four hundred new francs to one thousand old francs, the difference of six hundred francs to be kept in the bank until an investigation of the condition and occupation of the owner is completed. Moreover, notes of 100 francs denomination or smaller, although not exchanged, are also to be reduced in circulation by 40 per cent. It is said that about 3,000,000,000 francs of such currencies are in circulation and that the majority of the Belgian people, viewing this currency reform with displeasure, are not desirous of the exchange. Hence, of the note circulation of about 100,000,000,000 francs, 76,000,000,000 francs are reported to be still unregistered.

In the Netherlands, the exchange rate to be applied to the pay of the invading troops was agreed upon between the British Government and the Dutch Government-in-exile at one pound to 10.691 guilders. The rate is a temporary one, however, and one which will probably not be strictly maintained in the future. Guilder notes to be used by the invading forces are nevertheless to be issued on the responsibility of the exiled Dutch Government and to circulate at par with notes of the Bank of the Netherlands.

In addition to these notes, mark notes printed by the anti-Axis forces are also being used for payments in the occupied areas. The exchange rate between this mark and the German mark has not yet been decided upon, but the exchange rate between the British pound and the anti-Axis mark has been fixed at one pound to 40 marks, in contrast to the pre-war rate of one pound to 10.50 German marks. The inhabitants of the occupied zones are desirous of a strict maintenance of the above exchange rate, but in the absence of any solid basis, fluctuations may occur at any time.

But it is in the Mediterranean area where the Anglo-American occupation has had the most devastating effect on the local currencies. For in Italy where the exchange rate between the pound and the lira before the war used to be one pound to 71 liras, the present rate has become one pound to 20,000,000 liras. And in Greece where the pre-war exchange rate was one pound to 515 drachmas, today it is one pound to 20,000,000 drachmas.

As these illustrations show, the currencies of the areas in Europe occupied by the Anglo-American forces have been plunged into a state of chaos. Although the provisional governments established in the occupied zones are taking various measures to stabilize their currencies, the measures are proving to be altogether ineffective.

The greatest contrast can thus be seen to exist between the situation in Europe and the situation in the Greater East Asia Region of Common Prosperity. For although there is currency expansion and an inflationary trend in East Asia, the growth is gradual and slight. Compared with the situation in Europe since the Anglo-American invasion, where one pound has come to equal 20,000,000 liras or 20,000,000 drachmas, the currency situation in East Asia remains reassuringly stable indeed.

A Year Ago Today

November 25, 1943

It was reported that in the raid on Enshih, advance air base of the Chungking air force, which recently was incorporated into the American air force, the Japanese Army Air Units, besides demolishing all the facilities there, shot down eight enemy fighters which rose to challenge the raiders. These Chungking fighter planes came up to fight not knowing the true strength of the Japanese flyers, having recently returned from India where they were trained.

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Pointing to the family-like atmosphere prevailing at the Assembly of Greater East-Asiatic Nations and emphatically declaring that through that conference it was proved that East Asia is really one, Head of the State and Prime Minister Dr. Ba Maw of Burma issued his first statement since his return to Burma.

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Substantiating his assertions with various glaring proofs obtained from American sources, Ambassador Saburo Kurusu, who was dispatched to Washington in November, 1941 by the Imperial Government to assist Ambassador Kichisaburo Nomura in the Washington negotiations with a view to arrive at a peaceful settlement of the Pacific problem once again severely attacked the American leaders for starting this war by ignoring Japan's fair and righteous proposals.

HONGKONG'S REVIVAL

Great Industrial Progress Made By Island Since War

(By A SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR)

Three years have elapsed since Hongkong has come under the fold of the Japanese Military Administration. Much has been done since then to bring this rocky bastion into a position, military and economic, even far more impregnable than before the war. War wounds have been healed and reconstruction is still pushing ahead at a rapid and satisfactory pace, all of which is due to the untiring leadership of the Administration and the unstinted cooperation of officials and civilians.

Inasmuch as Britain had sunk colossal investments into this one time "Gibraltar of the East" to make it a front line base and springboard for territorial expansion in East Asia, Hongkong boasts gigantic and excellent industrial facilities. These industries, today, are not what they used to be. Ever since they have come under our control and management, they have been whitewashed to meet the new needs of the times. Assiduous and enthusiastic effort is still being directed toward their reconstruction and development, the better to fit them for their new mission synonymous with the construction of Greater East Asia.

The shipbuilding industry is the most important of Hongkong's heavy industries and was built to serve as Britain's greatest base in East Asia. The construction of new ships was left principally in the hands of England because the island was not blessed with abundant supplies of iron, steel, coal and other industrial supplies which are indispensable factors in the building of new ships. Hongkong, therefore, concentrated, in the main on repairs and her dock facilities for the purpose were reputed to be the best anywhere between the South Seas and southern China.

However, it is of course only logical to conclude that when the production of iron in the Southern Regions shall have attained a satisfactory figure, the way will be opened for the permanent and wide-scale functioning of Hongkong's shipbuilding industry. Furthermore, the construction of iron foundries in adjacent areas will, no doubt, add considerably to the possibilities of its development.

Wooden Ships Urgently Needed

Recently, a point worthy of special attention has been the rapidity with which wooden ships have been built. The center of this commendable activity are the shipyards under the direct control and supervision of the Government-General which are applying themselves vigorously toward increased production.

Since January 1943, when the first wooden ship was built, others have been launched in quick succession and set out to sea, all of which are playing an important role in deep sea transport. Four factors account for the remarkable progress which Hongkong has made in the construction of wooden ships. They are:

1. The possession of a fine natural harbor and excellent conditions for the building of shipyards and slipways.
2. The comparative ease with which timber is obtained.
3. The absence of difficulties in working all shipbuilding facilities left on the island after the war. Experience too gained before the war is easily mobilized and employed. Successful reconditioning of machinery in shipyards to meet the mass production of wooden ships.
4. Hongkong's important role as a port of call in the Great East Asia Region, and the positive guidance and encouragement given to the shipbuilding industry by the Government-General.

Under the circumstances, it may be said, therefore, that the ship repairing and the mass construction of wooden ships are the first priority jobs of the shipyards in Hongkong, the accomplishment of which is not only a vital task but an important contribution as well to the fighting power necessary to win the war.

Although Hongkong's chemical industries are fitted out with gigantic facilities, the overall conditions are not as excellent as could be expected. In the alkali industry, for example, abundant supplies of coal, salt and electricity are required. Most of all, a plentiful supply of electric power at cheap rates is important. Hongkong, however, derives its electric power from coal which together with salt must be imported from outside sources, a condition which does not contribute favorably to the industry.

Furthermore, soda, which in Japan is employed in the rayon, staple fiber, paper, dyeing, and a great many other industries, is in Hongkong only useful to the soap manufacturing industries, for Hongkong does not possess the variety of factories that are distributed throughout the Japanese mainland.

Under the circumstances, ways and means must be discovered to put the by-product chlorine to profitable use. As the development of the chemical industry in Hongkong is connected with the use to which chlorine might be employed, great pains must be exerted to provide the necessary accommodation and plans, if any success in this direction is to be achieved.

Hongkong's Marine Industry

Conditions relative to the tobacco and marine industries in Hongkong are excellent. This is borne out by two factors. The raw materials essential to the manfacture of tobacco are comparatively easy to obtain owing to the fact that Burma, Sumatra, Java, the Philippine Islands and Taiwan, the principal centers of supply, are situated conveniently close to Hongkong. The demand for tobacco in the areas bordering Hongkong and again in the South Seas reaches a tremendous figure. In this connection, it is interesting to note that before the war, tobacco was also being exported to Shanghai. All these factors, therefore, give promise of a bright future for the tobacco industry.

Rich fishing grounds, prolific with tunny and yellowtail, lie not far from Hongkong. The characteristic Chinese junks, which do not rely on crude oil or engines, sail out to bring in the catch. The importance of these fishing fleets cannot be sufficiently stressed because their employment in the industry not only conserves oil for more important uses but they pave the way for the achievement of fruitful results provided, of course, proper guidance is given and the fleet increased.

Large cold storage or refrigerator plants in the island fitted out with modern equipment are of a very superior standard. When the import and export of fresh foods was a brisk trade before the war, these plants were extensively used. Dairy farms excellently constructed and equipped also exist. Accordingly milk, butter, and cheese were produced in large quantities. The fact that Hongkong possesses such cold storage plants is a matter of much interest and their activity in the future is awaited wih much expectation and attention.

Labor in Hongkong is abundant even though the work performed by the coolies is poor and inefficient. The Canton coolie, however, turns out two and a half times more work than his Hongkong brother. As the poor showing of the Hongkong coolie is the result of long habit and an unsatisfactory system, the remedy for this unwholesome state of affairs is, therefore, to be found in training accompanied by improvement in the labor system. Efforts must be exerted to bring the labor force up to efficiency standards.

AIM OF LOANS TO CHINA

Credit Extensions Made by Japan Manifest Her Sincere Solicitude for Neighbor

(By A SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR)

It will be recalled that in July, 1942 the Japanese Government made the Bank of Japan grant to the Central Reserve Bank of China a loan of ¥100,000,000. With the object of further strengthening the credit standing of the Central Reserve Bank of China a contract for the grant of a credit of ¥40,000,000 was signed on August 25th of this year by Keizo Shibusawa, Governor of the Bank of Japan, and Chou Fouhai, Governor of the Central Reserve Bank of China.

Under this contract the Central Reserve Bank of China is privileged to obtain loans up to the maximum amount of ¥400,000,000 during a period of five years and make repayments thereof in one lump sum or in several instalments at any time during that period. Three and half per cent interest will be charged on these loans. If convenient to the two banks concerned, the credit period of five years may be further extended.

In other words, the Bank of Japan has granted to the Central Reserve Bank of China a credit whereunder the latter may borrow funds up to the maximum limit of ¥400,000,000 whenever it requires yen funds. Hence the purpose of the credit granted this time is somewhat different from that of the loan of ¥100,000,000 granted in July, 1942, which was used to provide reserve for the issuance of Central Reserve Bank notes.

Manifestation of Japan's Sincerity

The granting of this new credit is a manifestation of Japan's sincere desire further to bolster the foundation of the Central Reserve Bank of China. From this viewpoint, its political significance as a steady step toward the establishment of sound finance in Greater East Asia is rather much more important than its significance as a financial transaction between the two central banks of Japan and China.

The Japanese Government, in accordance with the Tojo Cabinet's decision of March this year, revealed at that time its intention to extend the fullest cooperation in the maintenance of the value of the Central Reserve Bank note. By the grant by Japan of an additional credit at this time the foundation of the Central Reserve Bank of China has been further strengthened, so much so that the credit of the bank notes issued by it will be further enhanced. This enhancement of the credit of the Central Reserve Bank notes will by that much intensify the blow which the granting of this credit will deal to the Chungking regime.

Basis for Economic Progress

Having always at heart a sincere desire for the sound economic progress of China, the Japanese Government has hitherto evinced keenest interest in the sound development of China's currency which will form the basis of China's sound economic progress. Already Japan has extended the following large sums of loans and credits to China:

(1) Loan of ¥12,500,000 granted to the Provisional Government of North China jointly by the Industrial Bank of Japan, the Bank of Chosen, and the Yokohama Specie Bank to enable that Government to subscribe to the capital stock of the Federal Reserve Bank of China at the time of the latter's establishment in February, 1938.

(2) Credit of ¥200,000,000 granted by the Bank of Japan to the Federal Reserve Bank of China in March, 1943. The purpose of this credit was the same as that granted to the Central Reserve Bank of China on August 25 this year.

(3) Credit of ¥50,000,000 granted by the Bank of Japan to the Bank of Mengchiang in May, 1943. In addition to this credit, there exists between these two banks a contract for the grant of ¥50,000,000 in advances.

(4) Loan of ¥100,000,000 granted by the Bank of Japan to the Central Reserve Bank of China in July, 1942 for the purpose of providing reserve for the issuance of bank notes by the latter.

(5) Credit of ¥400,000,000 granted by the Bank of Japan to the Central Reserve Bank of China in August this year.

(6) Credit of ¥300,000,000 granted by the Japanese Government to the National Government of China in 1941.

Makes Good Development

With the financial assistance thus extended by Japan and along with the steady extension of the circulating sphere of the Central Reserve Bank note, the Central Reserve Bank of China has made remarkable development recently. Meanwhile, in order to cope with the new situation necessitating further closer Sino-Japanese financial cooperation in consequence of China's entrance into war on the side of Japan, the present step of granting additional credit of ¥400,000,000 to that bank has been taken up. The Bank of Japan will continue to assist in the sound development of this Chinese central bank.

By enabling the Central Reserve Bank of China to make further sound progress as one of the most powerful financial institutions of the Greater East Asia Common Prosperity Region, the present grant of credit to that bank will go a long way toward the establishment of the Greater East Asia Financial Structure based on the yen currency. Thus the yen currency has come to possess a solid position in the Greater East Asia Common Prosperity Region.

This fact bears great political significance, but even when viewed from the question of currency alone we find that the yen currency holds an unshakable foundation as the basic currency of Greater East Asia.

Judged from a political viewpoint, the granting of this credit is concrete proof of the close, inseparable oasis underlying Sino-Japanese relations. From Hirota's "three principles," the Konoye statement, the Sino-Japanese Basic Treaty, the Greater East Asia Joint Declaration down to the Japanese Government's new policy toward China, Japan's attitude toward China has been and is consistently based on her sincere wishes for China's attainment of complete independence by liberating herself from the shackles of her aggressors.

Naturally, there is a difference of heaven and earth between Japan's attitude and that of the United States and Britain, who scheme permanently to enslave Greater East Asia by granting successive loans to the Chungking regime.

By comparing Japan's fair and just attitude of seeking no selfish interests in China, but of earnestly hoping for China's prosperity and independence, with the sinister aggressive designs of the Anglo-American Powers, is it not time for the Chungking regime to awaken from its illusion of depending upon the United States and Britain and fully to understand Japan's sincere intentions?

Drawing Power

J. "What kind of a dentist is Dr. Pullum?"

1. "Oh, he's great. Every time he extracts a tooth he gives you a glass of whisky."

J. "And you still go to him regularly?"

S. "Not any more. I haven't got any teeth left."

EAST ASIA'S EDITORIAL FORUM

Views of Leading Journals on Pertinent Subjects

Historic Events

(From the Shanghai Times)

With Burma and the Philippines already regaining independence and the East Indies steadily preparing to stand on its own feet, the whole of East Asia is now rapidly becoming a well-knit family of liberated, independent nations amid the present global war. This trend is decidedly epochal. It undoubtedly marks the dawn of a period of unprecedented progress in human history. Thus, all mankind can now look forward to the advent of a new world, in which peace and justice will reign in place of imperialism, materialism, love of power, brute force and all other untoward factors dominating modern civilization and politics. Obviously, Asia is finally awakening, destined to prove immeasurably instrumental in introducing a new world order and thereby making real human progress possible. This trend of Asia's revolt against alien imperialism had long been prevented from setting in by Anglo-American plutocracy, until it made itself evident a decade or two ago, when a series of significant events began to take place one after another in this part of the world.

Outstanding among such important occurrences is what is known as the Manchurian Incident, which broke out exactly 13 years ago at Liutiaokou, near Mukden, when a body of Chang Hsueh-liang's troops, blasting a section of the South Manchuria Railway line, clashed with Nippon's Kwantung garrison. This outbreak was preceded by scores of different disputes occurring between Japan and the Chang regime, apparently with Anglo-American interests backing up the latter. The hostilities that followed, however, enabled Japan adequately to protect her rightful interests in Manchuria against all alien menaces. What is more important is the founding of Manchoukuo on March 1, 1932, which definitely established the principle of self-determination and independence for all Asiatic nations. During the following decade this newly founded nation has made astounding strides, militarily, politically, economically and otherwise, and is now rendering wholehearted cooperation with Nippon and other East Asiatic countries in the prosecution of the War of Greater East Asia against Anglo-American aggression.

Seeing the inception of Asia's awakening in the Manchurian Incident, Anglo-American plutocrats left nothing undone in trying to tighten their stranglehold on East Asia. The notorious Lytton Report, which was made public on October 2, 1932, was an unmistakable proof of the Anglo-American Powers' incorrigible imperialism, as well as of their inveterate ambition to convert the whole of East Asia into a veritable colony of their own. Their attempt to intimidate Nippon by such threats, however, fell far short of attaining its end. On the contrary, her withdrawal from the League of Nations served distinctly to reveal her readiness to uphold justice against any amount of political pressure, or even brute force. Moreover, this resolute action on the part of Nippon dealt a fatal blow to that Geneva organization which had been primarily aimed at safeguarding Anglo-American imperialism in the name of collective security and international cooperation. How intent the Anglo-American Powers were upon advancing their imperialistic designs in East Asia after the Manchurian Incident was also evidenced by the varied activities of many of their agents such as Sir Frederick Leith-Ross and a British railway mission, the former trying to enslave China to Britain financially under the pretext of reforming the Chinese monetary system and the latter drawing up a railway plan so designed as to extend British influence throughout China and connect this country with Burma by railway.

What Anglo-American plutocrats have done since 1937 for the sole purpose of strangling Nippon to death as an independent nation, both economically and militarily, by taking advantage of the unfortunate armed conflict then underway between Nippon and China, are all still too fresh in our memory to require any comment or review here. Let it suffice to say that, having thus forced the present war on Nippon, the Anglo-American Powers are now making more and more desperate attempts at re-invading East Asia and placing the whole of Asia at their disposal for unrestricted domination and exploitation. However, the more precipitate their aggression, the more staggering will be the losses their fighting forces will sustain at the hands of Asia's defenders and, consequently, the more irrevocable the final collapse of their imperialism. Thus, the process of Asia's awakening, which has been accelerated by the Manchurian Incident and other recent developments in East Asia, will certainly be completed in due course with each and every nation in this part of the world successfully defending itself against aggression and thereby facilitating the final emancipation of all mankind from Anglo-American imperialism.

Leyte and Asian Defense

(From the Manila Tribune)

It is not only in the Philippines that the Nippon armed forces are crushing the evil intentions of the anti-Axis camp. All over the wide Pacific front, on the Chinese continent, in Burma and in the Indian Ocean, the fighting men of Japan are active, determined and persistent.

To us Filipinos, the fight in the Leyte-Samar area is the focus of attention because the Anglo-Saxon enemies have launched their re-invasion of our land and because it is an armed conflict in our very midst.

However, it is necessary for all of us to keep in mind that the staggering losses inflicted upon the enemy fleet in the Pacific, the heroic air operations of the death-defying Nippon fliers, the intrepid defense of the garrisons on Peliliu and Morotai, the large-scale operations directed toward Kweilin, the air-raids on Indian bases by Nippon warplanes—all these are part and parcel of the great strategy of Asian defense. Perforce, the Nippon operations in Leyte must be considered as an element in this great strategic framework.

The desperate Americans are not slacking in their efforts to consolidate their foothold in Leyte in spite of the annihilative losses suffered by them. They have concentrated their efforts in enlarging their sphere and in building airfields from which to launch further air attacks on Philippine soil. However, the Nippon Army and Navy have not been idle. They have pounded the enemy warships and transports in Leyte Gulf, and have bombed the enemy troops and supplies landed in the vicinity of Tacloban and Dulag. Fresh troops are being transported in increasing numbers to reinforce the Nippon garrison in Leyte. Already the enemy have suffered staggering losses in men and material.

We have been told by experts that the Leyte operations offer the best chance for bleeding the enemy. With his long transport line, already extended to the maximum, the foe is finding it increasingly difficult to reinforce his depleted troops and to keep a steady stream of munitions and supplies flowing—which he must keep up if he intends to keep his troops in Leyte. Here is the situation which permits the steady bleeding of the enemy because the Nippon Forces have the advantage of shorter supply line and the numerically and tactically superior land-based air force.

Yes, the enemy forces are still in Leyte but they are being bled white. The longer he remains the more he will bleed.

And in the interim, the total strategy of Asian defense shall have been reformulated, taking into consideration the situation all over the Asian defense front and still more aggressive action may be expected in the Leyte area without weakening any other sector of the defensive bastion.

AN HOUR WITH WANG CHING-WEI

Late President Has Always Been Enthusiastic of Asia's Future

By KANESADA HANAZONO

By happy chance, I met the late Mr. Wang Ching-wei, President of the National Government of China, who recently died of illness in Nagoya. It was in 1929 in Nagasaki where I went from Tokyo during my summer vacation on a sightseeing trip.

Arriving in Nagasaki by boat from Kobe, I called at the news bureau of the Mainichi Shimbun to see a friend. There I learned that Mr. Wang Ching-wei had just reached Nagasaki on his way to the United States, but that he had flatly refused to see any newspaper reporters.

Like a flash, the idea came to me that taking advantage of my position as lecturer in a certain university in Tokyo I might see and talk with him. I went to register myself at the Nagasaki Hotel where Mr. Wang was staying overnight. Still I doubted if I could succeed as he was traveling incognito. However, after I was settled in my room, I asked a hotel clerk to give my card to Mr. Wang. Quite unexpectedly for me, his answer was favorable. I was ushered into the parlor by one of his private secretaries, who was apparently a student in one of the universities in Tokyo. Entering the room, Mr. Wang smilingly put out his hand as though greeting an old friend. In that year, the China Affair, unsettled for two years, had finally been solved in March with the exchange of notes between the Japanese and Chinese Governments.

Looking young for his age, Mr. Wang had a soft speaking voice, which, however, became fired with enthusiasm when he touched upon the future of Asia. "The relations between Japan and China," he stated, "should be like those between Germany and Austria."

At first, his secretaries acted as interpreters, but afterward he made them withdraw to leave us alone. Unable to use but little Japanese and less English, he mixed them and by enlisting the aid of pen and paper, succeeded in making himself quite clear. With blazing eyes, he spoke of his ideal of a Greater East Asia. This interview lasted only 40 minutes but it was one of the most important incidents in my whole life.

When Mr. Wang became President of the National Government of China, my memory of this interview revived. How strongly I resisted the temptation to write to him and congratulate him upon his assumption of the post.

The scene of my interview with him was quite appropriate. No other place could have been better. Nagasaki is noted for its many stories of Christian propaganda in olden days and is also the only place in Japan where the Chinese atmosphere is so remarkable.

Plenty Chinese Atmosphere

As we walk down the streets, we see many shopkeepers who look like Chinese but we cannot tell their nationality until we hear them speak. Old stone arched bridges made in the Chinese style can be seen. Famous Buddhist temples, conspicuous for their architectural beauty, established by Chinese residents in the Tokugawa era are well worth visiting. The City Museum contains, among other things, old documents of early Christians and old Chinese pictures. With the oldest Christian chapel in Japan still standing white on a hill in the smokeless air, Christianity as it was when first introduced in the 16th century and afterward via Manila makes a strong impression upon the visitor.

The Chinese culture and commerce clashed in those days with the European religion which had already become deeply rooted in the soil. The Sofukuji Temple, two kilometers from the Nagasaki Railway Station, is popularly called "the Chinese Temple." It was built by the Chinese and Japanese in the 6th year of Kwanyei, 1629, from the fund collected among the shipping merchants from Fukien. The buildings of the temple are now national treasures.

All the Buddhist temples in Nagasaki were once destroyed by the Christians during the 16th century. The Tokugawa government felt the menace from the so-called Christian trade made in the disguise of Christian propaganda, which consisted in the importing of luxuries and guns for the great feudal lords in Kyushu, who were practically rulers being so far from Yedo (Tokyo). Thus coming to the conclusion that the teaching of Christianity should be prohibited, the government again began the persecution of the Christians.

Christian chapels and cathedrals were pulled down or converted into Buddhist temples. Tokugawa Iyeyasu, the first Shogun of the Tokugawas, died in the second year of the Genna era, 1616, the same year in which Shakespeare died, and during the Genna era, Kofukuji, Honrenji and other Buddhist temples were established. This was part of the government's policy to convert into Buddhists all the local people who had become Christianized to the core. During this turbulent period, the persecuted Christians prayed unceasingly. When they were to be crucified, death held no horrors for them but rather had its charms.

On the site of the Shuntokuji Temple, there was a college and a seminary. Esopono Fabulas, the Japanese translation of Aesop's Fables from Latin, was published by Amakusa Collegio in 1593, the 2nd year of Bunroku, for Christian students and missionaries as a text of the Japanese language.

On the decline of Christianity in Japan, many learned priests came from China. With them came scholars, doctors, artists, architects and even masters of cuisine, as members of these evangelical groups. A request was sent for the Rev. Ingen to come, who arrived in Nagasaki on a Chinese ship on the night of July 5, 1654, the 3rd year of Sho-wo. Later, he moved to Uji, near Kyoto and founded the Obaku denomination.

Five years later, that is, in 165 Chun Shun-shui of Ming came to Nagasaki as a political refugee from China under the new Tsing regime. He became a naturalized Japanese and an adviser to Mitsukuni of Mito, co-editing the History of Great Japan, by which the national movement for Imperial unity was started—a movement which led to the Imperial Restoration of 1868.

Fruits of Wisdom

Pride counterbalances all our miseries, for it either hides them, or if it discloses them, boasts of that disclosure. Pride has such a thorough possession of us, even in the midst of our miseries and faults, that we are prepared to sacrifice life with joy, if it may but be talked of.—Pascal.

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Prejudices are what rule the vulgar crowd.—Voltaire.

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Indolence and stupidity are first cousins.—Rivarol.

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Little things console us, because little things afflict us.—Pascal.